REMARKS

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed June 14, 2007. Claims 1-7, 9, 17-20 and 22-28 are pending in the application and are rejected. Applicants respond to the Office Action as follows:

**Response to Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112.**

Claims 27 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claims 27-28 recite wherein the airflow guide or elastomeric body comprises a formed in place gasket. On page 5 of the specification, Applicants disclose:

> One example of a suitable polymer to form the extension is a polymer that is traditionally used to make **form-in-place gaskets** (emphasis added). The pre-polymer or a gel-like form the polymer is extruded onto an upturned cover 114 (step 410), following a path 208 determined by the desired shape of the extension. The gel-like material is then allowed to cure (step 420). Once cured the polymer adheres to the cover. In other words, the extension is securely attached to the cover even as it is formed.

Applicants' specification on page 5, clearly enables the claimed subject matter and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

**Response to Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103.**

Claims 1-7, 9, 17-20 and 22-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gidumal, U.S. Patent No. 6,296,691.

Claims 1-7, 9, 17-20 and 22-28 were rejected on the basis that Gidumal teaches a data storage device comprising a housing (FIGS. 2A and 2B, Item 19); a disc stack assembly (FIGS. 2A and 2B, Item 12) rotatably mounted to the housing, wherein the rotation of the disc stack assembly

creates a fluid flow region proximate to the stack assembly, and an airflow guide (FIGS. 2A and 2B, Item 11) that projects into the housing and comprises an elastic wall in the fluid flow region of the disc stack assembly and the elastic wall having an elastic surface (Col. 6, line 57- col. 7, line 21).

FIG. 3 of Gidumal discloses a molded combination breather filter for removing incoming external air and recirculation filter for removing contaminants from recirculating air. The molded structure includes a permeable multi-layered construction for air flow through the filter. As shown in FIG. 3, the multi-layered structure includes an inner filter layer 22, another filtration layer 24 and outer protective layer 26. Inner layer 22 includes filter papers or filter membranes such as polypropylene membranes or cast polymeric membranes or some combination of filter material that is permeable to air flow. Layer 24 is formed of PTFE and polyamide fibers. Outer protective layer 26 is formed of an extruded or expanded plastic material of polyproylene, polyamide, polyester, or porous polytetraflouroethylene.

Claims 1-7 and 26-27 as amended recite an airflow guide wherein the airflow guide is formed in place and comprises an elastomeric material, which as discussed above is disclosed in Applicants' specification. Gidumal discloses a molded multi-layered filter structure and does not teach or suggest an airflow guide, where the airflow guide is formed in place and comprises an elastomeric material as claimed.

Claim 19 has been cancelled in this Amendment. Claims 9, 17-18, 20, 22-25 and 28 as amended recite an airflow guide comprising an elastomeric body formed of a curable gel-like material as recited in cancelled claim 19. Claim 19 was rejected based upon a general reference to FIGS. 1A-8 and col. 6, line 57-col. 9, line 35 of Gidumal. Reference to Col. 6, line 57-Col. 9, line 35 fails to establish that Gidumal discloses an airflow guide comprising an elastomeric body formed of a curable gel-like material as claimed. Gidumal discloses a molded multi-layered structure as discussed above and does not teach an airflow guide comprising an elastomeric body formed of a curable gel-like material as set forth in amended claims 9, 17-18, 20, 22-25 and 28.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-7, 9, 17-18, 20, 22-28 are respectfully requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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